

REMARKS

The above amendments to the above-captioned application along with the following remarks are being submitted as a full and complete response to the Official Action dated October 25, 2006. In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, the Examiner is respectfully requested to give due reconsideration to this application, to indicate the allowability of the claims, and to pass this case to issue.

Status of the Claims

Claims 2, 4 and 39-41 are under consideration in this application. Claims 2 and 39-41 are being amended, as set forth in the above marked-up presentation of the claim amendments, in order to more particularly define and distinctly claim applicants' invention.

The claims are being amended to correct formal errors and/or to better recite or describe the features of the present invention as claimed. All the amendments to the claims are supported by the specification. Applicants hereby submit that no new matter is being introduced into the application through the submission of this response.

Prior Art Rejection

Claims 2, 4 and 39-40 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by US Patent No. 6,903,794 to Fukuta et al. (hereinafter "Fukuta"). This rejection has been carefully considered, but is most respectfully traversed, as more fully discussed below.

The display device of the invention (the elected embodiment depicted in Fig. 7; pp. 34-36), as now recited in claim 2, comprises: a display panel PNL, a frame member UFM different from the display panel PNL which is mounted on a back surface of the display panel PNL, a first board CNTS mounted with a first connector CNT which allows inputting of video data externally from another device and which is arranged on a back surface of the first board CNTS, and a second board TCNS mounted with a display control circuit TCON which is connected to the display panel PNL and the first board CNTS and which accepts the video data from the first connector CNT (e.g., via the male and female connectors cnt5 in Fig. 7B; claim 40). The first board CNTS and the second board TCNS are physically separated from each other. The second board TCNS is arranged to be brought into contact with a back surface of a region of the display panel PNL except for a display portion, and the first board CNTS is arranged to be brought into contact with a back surface of the frame member UFM.

Applicants respectfully submit that none of cited prior art references discloses, teaches or suggests applying such a “first connector CNT which allows inputting of video data externally from another device to a display control circuit TCON mounted on the second board TCNS and which is arranged on a back surface of the first board CNTS” as does the present invention.

In contrast, the alleged first connector 4a in Fukuta (p. 3, lines 1-2 of the outstanding Office Action) is arranged on a back surface of the second board 15 (Fig. 1), rather than on a back surface of the first board 3. As such, Fukuta fails to provide such a “first connector CNT which is arranged on a back surface of the first board CNTS” as in the present invention.

In addition, Fukuta’s semiconductor element 6 serves as a liquid crystal driver integrated circuit IC of the liquid crystal driver 2 (col. 5, lines 10-16) such that the external connection terminal 4a in Fukuta merely transmits signals from the liquid crystal driver 2 mounted on the first board 3 to the second board 15, but NOT transmitting video data from an external device to the semiconductor element 6. As shown in Fig. 1, Fukuta’s external connection terminal 4a simply does not transmit video data from an external device *into* the semiconductor element 6. Therefore, Fukuta fails to provide such a “first connector CNT which allows inputting of video data externally from another device to a display control circuit TCON mounted on the second board TCNS” as in the present invention.

Applicants contend that Fukuta fails to teach or disclose each and every feature of the present invention as recited in at least independent claim 2. As such, the present invention as now claimed is distinguishable and thereby allowable over the rejections raised in the Office Action. The withdrawal of the outstanding prior art rejections is in order, and is respectfully solicited.

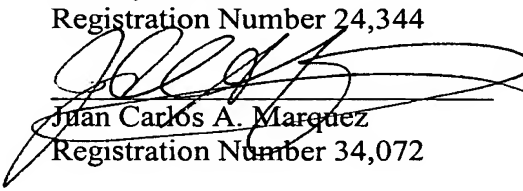
Conclusion

In view of all the above, clear and distinct differences as discussed exist between the present invention and the prior art references upon which the rejections in the Office Action rely, Applicant respectfully contends that the prior art references cannot anticipate the present invention or render the present invention obvious. Rather, the present invention as a whole is distinguishable, and thereby allowable over the prior art.

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully solicited. Should there be any outstanding issues requiring discussion that would further the prosecution and allowance of the above-captioned application, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative at the address and telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

Stanley P. Fisher
Registration Number 24,344



Juan Carlos A. Marquez
Registration Number 34,072

REED SMITH LLP
3110 Fairview Park Drive, Suite 1400
Falls Church, Virginia 22042
(703) 641-4200

January 23, 2007

SPF/JCM/JT